

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY

December 2012 – Week 4

Air Date: December 23 – December 29 (Sunday – Saturday)



TITLE: COWBOYS' CHRISTMAS BALL

DECEMBER 1887 AND A COWBOY PENS A CHRISTMAS CLASSIC.

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY, BROUGHT TO YOU BY THIS STATION AND THE SAVE TEXAS HISTORY PROGRAM OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

CHRISTMAS 1887. ANSON. INSPIRED BY A HOLIDAY DANCE, NEW YORK REPORTER AND RANCHER LARRY CHITTENDEN WRITES A POEM CALLED THE COWBOYS CHRISTMAS BALL.

“Way out in Western Texas, where the Clear Fork’s waters flow,
Where the cattle are a-browzin’, an’ the Spanish ponies grow;
Where the antelope is grazin’ and the lonely plovers call –
It was there that I attended “The Cowboys’ Christmas Ball”.

The boys had left the ranches and come to town in piles;
The ladies – kinder scatterin’ – had gathered in for miles.
And the music started sighin’, an’ awailin’ through the hall
As a kind of introduction to “The Cowboy’s Christmas Ball”.”

A CHRISTMAS DANCE INSPIRED A CLASSIC POEM, 125 YEARS AGO, THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TEXAS!

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Juanita Daniel Zachry, "COWBOYS' CHRISTMAS BALL," *Handbook of Texas Online*
(<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/lkc05>), accessed December 13, 2012. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.